

Flood of Strange Entreaties and Advice Finds Oblivion in Congressmen's Waste Paper Basket

Requests Range From Hurry Up Call for Flower Seeds to Demand for Ambassadorship at Court of St. James.

Out of the waste paper baskets of the 433 Congressmen having rooms in the House of Representatives office building come expressions of every human emotion.

Also many curious samples of the ingenuity of office seekers, to say nothing of the pleas, supplications, and entreaties that are received almost daily from the constituents of the brave 433.

The requests made and expected to be fulfilled by the members in Congress range from the elevation of some influential ward heeler to the post of ambassador to the court of St. James to a hurry-up call for vegetable or flower seeds from some frenzied city dweller.

The Sixty-third Congress is reputed to be the gabbiest Congress yet, but if you had the privilege of looking through the mail of the 433 Congressmen or a small portion thereof, the vocal efforts of the legislators would diminish into a whisper in comparison with the English that flows into the offices of the Congressmen of today.

These letters are carefully read and promptly answered by the Congressmen or their hard-working secretaries, and if touching on some grave affair that merits saving they are filed. A large majority of the communications, however, eventually find their way into the waste paper baskets and oblivion.

Car Loads of Waste Paper.
From the baskets these letters and other refuse matter go to the storerooms in each of the four corners of the House office building, and from there they are transferred by husky armed hostlers to a storage room in the basement, where they repose until sufficient quantities accumulate for cartload lots. Then they are packed in large sacks and conveyed to a car in which the pleas, supplications, entreaties, and written emotions are shipped to a paper mill in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Eventually the communications and other waste paper come back to Washington, after acids have eaten of the ink and other marks, and the product is reduced to pulp and new material. The letter heads used by the Congressmen and much of the other writing materials employed by the Government departments are the unused product of the waste paper from the House office building and other departments of the Federal Government.

In the House office building there are to be seen the waste paper baskets. Also there are offices provided for the resident commissioners from the American possessions, the Philippines, Alaska, and Hawaii. In each of these offices there are three waste paper baskets, and hardly a night passes but that each of these refuse receptacles is well filled.

It falls to the lot of the fifty-five chambermen who cleanse the Congressional offices to first handle the waste paper, emptying the 120 baskets nightly in large sacks and carting them outside the doors, to be carted away by hostlers the following morning. The next move of the discarded letters takes them to the storeroom in the basement, where the sacks are emptied only to be gathered in sacks again each morning and sent on their way to the paper mill. The Government carefully weighs each sack, and is paid thousands of dollars by the purchaser each year.

One Man Lacks Freaks.
Daily contributors to the Government's waste paper fund are numerous in the House office building, but in room No. 110, on the New Jersey avenue side of the four-square structure, was discovered one Congressman who pleaded guilty to the receipt of many a letter from a constituent that could be classed in the peculiar or unusual class.

He is Congressman Maurice Connolly, representing the Third Iowa District, whose mail since two months ago has rapidly increased in volume by reason of the fact that he is the Democratic candidate for Senator in the Hawkeye State. But a careful scrutiny of his mail for sixty days has failed to disclose anything more unusual than a request for a setting of pheasant and turkey legs. Appreciation, however, is not a minus quantity among Connolly's people. One remittance of \$5 and two inclosures of 30 cents each from farmers in front of whose doors Connolly arranges to have three rural routes run, testify to the course, the remittances were returned to the senders with an appreciative note from the Congressman.

Another Iowa Congressman from a district bordering a river, who received the following communication from a woman:

"I have 49 stamps which I have saved from envelopes that have been used. Is there any bounty on them or are they useful for materials in stamps again?"

Here is Prize Letter.
The prize letter from a constituent of a Western Congressman that has been preserved because of its unusual composition was received while the parcel's post law was being considered in the House. The name of the writer was not divulged, but the text of the communication verbatim is as follows:

"I wish you would hurry up an

pass that there parashals post law. These here express rats is to bl all together. I ship a cat to Chicago an they charge me \$7.50 which is mutch to mutch. I cud use the parashals post bad and wish you would hurry up so we farmers cud send things by express cheper by parashals post."

In Lomax, Ill., a new town now being boomd across the Mississippi river from the Keokuk, Iowa, power dam, there is a descendant of the late Senator David Davis, also an Illinoisan, who during the early 80's was elevated by the death of the Vice President to the presidency of the upper House. Senator Davis was a man of immense proportions, weighing in the neighborhood of 400 pounds, and a special chair was necessary for his comfort. It was for this chair that the Lomax man wrote. His letter follows:

"I know you will laugh when you get this letter, but it is a serious proposition with me. I understand that at one time a Vice President had an immense chair to sit in, and I being a descendant of the gentleman, I would like to get it, if possible. Please let me hear from you."

The Congressman thus addressed sought the desired piece of furniture to oblige his constituent, going so far as to ransack the garret of the Capitol, where it was said the Davis chair was stored. His search was fruitless, however, as the prized chair already had been presented to another man.

Advice From Asylum.
The anti-trust legislation has been discussed from various angles by the members of both Houses of Congress, but hardly as extensively as in the argument against it recently received by a Southern Congressman from an inmate of an insane asylum in his district. Thirty-four pages of closely written penciling were picked up from the desk of the Congressman the other morning and hurriedly glanced over. The letter then went to the Congressman's secretary who after wading through the harangue, was sufficiently vexed to pass it on to the stenographer. No report has yet been made by the typist as to her success in deciphering the writing.

A little interior town in a northern State is built around a square, and in this square a cannon has been mounted at the instance of the Congressman from this particular section. The obsolete firearm's dedication was featured with a program of a patriotic character and the weekly paper in the community duly recorded it. The following is one of the results of this Congressman's work in furnishing the cannon:

"Dear Sir, I see by the paper that you give away a old cannon that was condemn by the government and put it in the square at We ain't got no square here, but I got a big yard and my house is in the middle of town and I would like to have you put one of them guns each side of my front gate where the whole town could get the benefit of them."

"P. S.—My boy Herbert will be sixteen in the fall and I will make him keep them guns shined up bright. I was a soldier in the old forth—"

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Some specimens of the literature in the shape of petitions and appeals which finds final rest in the waste paper baskets of the White House executive offices and those of the Senators and Congressmen.

Seattle, Wash., March 13, 1914.
To Honorable President Woodrow Wilson,
Washington, D. C.
My Noble President:

You surely, by your act of the strokes of modern hoses, leading us so awfully neglected people of Alaska that followed our exploration and discoveries in the new explored wilderness in that Great Country Alaska.

I again regretfully must state that I ley region, Central Alaska, December 19, 1913, from lack of food, sick with scurvy, and I came to the Coast to Seward, to my family. My fourteen years of my life work had nearly discovered (of coal) and commercial minerals under develop- ment, the building of roads will inspire capital to assist my heartfelt thanks to You and Congress.

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These Firms Will Show You How To Chase the Heat Jinx

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AT THE NEW White Palace Lunch
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Don't suffer the discomforts and inconveniences of cooking in your hot kitchen on the sweltering summer days. Go to the WHITE PALACE LUNCH, where the food is delicious and a gigantic cooling plant keeps the temperature delightful at all times.

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"THE PLACE TO MEET YOUR FRIENDS"

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realment and for all thru the war. You remember you got me pensun.

Plea For Filipinos.
Most of Manuel Quizon's correspondence is written in the Spanish language from his people down in the Philippines, from which possession he is one of the resident commissioners here, but some of his countrymen are in this country fitting themselves for service in the Island when the Filipinos finally are given independence. One of these is G. J. Millente, who tells of some of his struggles and some of his hopes for his country. In a letter written on Ohio State University paper from Columbus, Ohio, in part he wrote:

"I am a boy who went out from the lackwoods or the southern Philippines to the very heart of America in search of education, which I know constitutes one of the greatest factors of our country's future success. Some ten years ago, mother, knowing me and my country for education, encouraged me to go out into the world to strive for it, that her son may do some service to his country. We have, as you know, brave and noble mothers in the Philippines, and mine is one example. I have been away from home ten long years, of which four I remained in Manila working as a servant among the families for my education and the other six years I have been in America and worked for my education, first with farmers, then with town men, and now as an active civil engineering student with Americans of the highest type."

"As a true Filipino, blood and in soul, I have day after day compared my people with Americans and other nationalities and found them similar in some respects and superior in others. Consequently, I believe that my countrymen are in every way worthy of the liberty they seek. At present I live with President Thompson, of the Ohio State University, and in two years I contemplate to return to Palo Seyte, P. I., as a civil engineer."

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the frozen North. In the files of Mr. Wickersham's office is a compartment set aside for Zorn's letters, and the photographs he forwards, but never a piece of paper from Zorn finds its way to the refuse pile.

How About Your Eyes?
PROPER GLASSES!
Will relieve eye strain, headache, dizziness, nervousness, brain fatigue, improve your health and make you better fitted for the duties of life.
The eyes, like many other delicate and priceless things, require the utmost care and attention. Straining the eyes by reading and writing without proper glasses will wreck both eyesight and health. If you suffer from eye strain, call immediately and consult
RALPH MARTIN SAMUEL
THE EXPERT EYESIGHT SPECIALIST
Your eyes may be saved for as little as \$1.00.
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SPECIAL \$2.00 Gold-Filled Eye-Glasses or Spectacles \$1.00
INVISIBLE BIFOCALS FROM \$3.00 AND UP.
Special rates will be quoted on all special cases for this week.
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EXPERT EYESIGHT SPECIALIST
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25c Boys' Percalé
Waists, 12 1/2c
Best of quality Boys' Percalé and Gingham Waists in very pretty patterns. Slightly soiled. All sizes up to 15 years.

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\$2.00 Fine Figured Batiste Dresses

89c
Beautifully made, fine quality dainty figured Batiste Dresses; organdie veils; some em broidered collars and cuffs, and French tunic or draped skirt styles. All sizes and lengths.

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\$2.00 Children's Dresses
Entire new lot of the very prettiest styles in children's dresses; Chamber, Percalé, or Fine French Madras Dresses, in plain shades or of neat checks, stripes, plaids, etc., to be found here. All the new tunic or Balkan styles. All sizes up to 14 years.

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39c Long Lisle Gloves Ladies' long silk-finished Mercerized Lisle Gloves; 16-button lengths; 2 clasp; all sizes.

95c
\$1.00 Boys' Wash Suits
Boys' extra good quality Hyde Grade Wash Suits, in solid colors, tan, blue, or white; also striped suits in pretty effects; all tastefully trimmed; Russian, sailor, or beach styles; sizes up to 8 years; colors absolutely fast.

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75c Middy Blouses
Good quality Linene Middy Blouses; good weight; strong, durable material; free of starch; blue or red color and cuffs; breast pockets; long sleeves; all sizes.

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50c Pure-Thread Silk Hose, 29c
Onyx seconds, handsome quality pure silk boot hose, in black and colors; made with taped, high - spliced heels, and garter tops.

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Superior finished White Ribbed Union Suits; made of good quality yarn; taped neck and arms; pants lace trimmed; all perfect fitting garments.

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Men's Knee-length, Double-seamed Drawers and Short-sleeve Shirts; all sizes.

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75c Messaline Silks
The queen of all silk fabrics. Pure silk satin messaline in every shade including the new fall colors. These fabrics are all silk and guaranteed, 57c

57c
10c 36-inch wide Percales
Full 36-inch wide percales, made of good quality cloth; very neat and effective patterns; especially good for bungalow aprons, house dresses, etc.

7c
10c Linen-finish Crash
Linen-finish crash of good weight, with fast color border; also glass toweling in different widths; blue and red colors. Very special, 54c

54c
12 1/2c Mercerized White Madras
Finest quality sheer mercerized madras, in pretty floral or neat set designs, especially adapted for boys' or ladies' waists, men's shirts, etc.

73c
25c Black and White 36-inch wide Dress Goods
Pretty black and white checks in different widths. Make stylish separate skirts.

12 1/2c
49c Bleached Sheets
Double-bed size welded center; bleached sheets; made of good grade cotton finished with three-inch hems.

33c
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Drawer bodies for boys and girls to 13 years. Made with reinforced taped seams and double row of buttons.

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Ladies' 6c Corsets made of splendid quality coutil in long and medium lengths. High or low bust; garter attachment. All sizes.

44c
75c and \$1.00 Embroidery Ruffle Petticoats
16 and 18 inch All-over Embroidered Ruffle Skirts, with dust ruffle; many prettily embellished with wash ribbons, caught in bows.

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50c Women's Gowns
Splendidly made, full cut, good quality Gowns, with V or round necks, with lace or embroidered runnings.

36c
\$1.25 Gowns, Slips, and Skirts
Clear quality longlooth, orately trimmed with embroidery, laces and ribbons in dozens of handsome styles to select from.

67c
\$2 Underwear
Finest of hand-made French lingerie gowns, shadow lace trimmed combination and embroidery, lace and ribbon trimmings, etc.

95c
19c Women's Lisle Hose
Women's very thin sheer quality Gauge Lisle Hose, in black, white, or tan. Made with double sole, high spliced heels, pair.

11c
39c Gingham Petticoats
Women's fast color striped chambray gingham petticoats; full cut and well made with wide waist and ruffles.

19c
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75c White Crossbarred Waists
Ladies' sheer quality white Swiss Crossbarred Waists, in new drop-shouldered effect. Round Swiss embroidered collar, finished with ruffle edge. All sizes.

47c
\$7.50 Newest Accordion Pleated Tunic Skirts
To see is to go into ecstasies over the stylish grace of these newest model skirts of Roman stripe garbeline, with long tunic overdresses of close accented French blue serge. At present all sizes to select from.

\$4.98
\$2.00 Ratine Skirts
New Long Russian Tunic Overdresses; high waist band, made in good heavyweight ratine of superior quality; all lengths, and waist bands.

95c
\$3.98 Union Linen Dresses
Rich shades of Union Linen Dresses, made in the raglan sleeve, lace yoke, organza vest, collar and cuffs.

\$1.69
\$2.00 Fine Figured Batiste Dresses
Beautifully made, fine quality dainty figured Batiste Dresses; organdie veils; some em broidered collars and cuffs, and French tunic or draped skirt styles. All sizes and lengths.

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